

RECEIVED
2009 NOV 17 P 3: 12

LOURP COMBINSSION DOCKET CONTROL

Transcript Exhibit(s)

Docket #(s):	W-02273A-08-025)
	-
Exhibit #: A1-A2	51-53
·	

Arizona Conjunction Commission DOCKETED

NOV 172009

DOCKELED BY MI





# STATE OF ARIZONA



## Office of the CORPORATION COMMISSION CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

I, Ernest G. Johnson, Executive Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission, do hereby certify that

\*\*\*EHRENBERG IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION\*\*\*

a domestic nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Arizona, did incorporate on May 29, 1967.

I further certify that according to the records of the Arizona Corporation Commission, as of the date set forth hereunder, the said corporation is not administratively dissolved for failure to comply with the provisions of the Arizona Nonprofit Corporation Act; and that its most recent Annual Report, subject to the provisions of A.R.S. sections 10-3122, 10-3123, 10-3125, & 10-11622, has been delivered to the Arizona Corporation Commission for filing; and that the said corporation has not filed Articles of Dissolution as of the date of this certificate.

This certificate relates only to the legal existence of the above named entity as of the date issued. This certificate is not to be construed as an endorsement, recommendation, or notice of approval of the entity's condition or business activities and practices.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Arizona Corporation Commission. Done at Phoenix, the Capital, this 8th Day of September, 2009, A. D.

COMMISS

**Executive Director** 

By:

390127









#### HERBERT R. GUENTHER

EHRENBERG IMPROVEMENT ASSN

Director

#### ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

3550 North Central Avenue, Second Floor PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85012-2105 (602) 771-8500

System name

ADWR CWS ID: 91-000755,0000

(AZ0415497)

July 2, 2009

EHRENBERG IMPROVEMENT ASSN P O BOX 50 EHRENBERG, AZ 85334

Re:

System water plan review

Dear Water Provider:

The Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) has completed its review of your revised system water plan and has determined that your plan meets the objectives set forth in *Arizona Revised Statutes* § 45-342.

Please note that ADWR bases its compliance determination on the basic outline of system water plan requirements provided in statute. It is the water provider's responsibility to make sure the plan is realistic, practical, and technically sound for the water system and the community. The goal of the system water plan should be to reduce drought vulnerability through a strong water supply plan and conservation component, as well as ensure that the system is prepared to respond to a drought emergency.

System water plans should be implemented and evaluated prior to the next submittal so that appropriate revisions and improvements can be made. Updates are due to ADWR every five years. To assist you with future submittals, we have included a list of important points to consider on the back of this page. Note that these guidelines and recommendations are not specific to your plan, but are general recommendations based on components that were commonly not given sufficient consideration. For further assistance, you can also view several plans chosen as good "models" to consider at www.azwater.gov/dwr/drought/cws.html, as well as a fact sheet on conservation and drought planning.

Your system water plan update will be due to ADWR by January 2, 2012. (Note that if you choose to make changes to your plan before this time, your plan must be submitted within 60 days of the time the revisions are made.) If you have any specific questions about your system water plan or ADWR's review, please contact the Drought Program at (602) 771-8442 or by e-mail at ecws@azwater.gov.

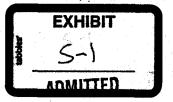
Sincerely,

Susan Craig, Manager

Swan Craig

ADWR Community Water Planning

ce: Emily Wunder, ADWR Conservation Program



MEMORANDUM

EX for EGJ

TO: ,

Docket Control

FROM:

Ernest G. Johnson

Director

Utilities Division

DATE:

July 06, 2009

RE:

STAFF REPORT FOR EHRENBERG IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION'S

APPLICATION FOR A PERMANENT RATE INCREASE (DOCKET NO. W-

02273A-08-0251)

Attached is the Staff Report for Ehrenberg Improvement Association's application for a permanent rate increase. Staff recommends approval of the rate increase application using Staff's recommended rates and charges.

Any party who wishes may file comments to the Staff Report with the Commission's Docket Control by 4:00 p.m. on or before July 16, 2009.

EGJ:DRE:kdh

Originator: Darak R. Eaddy

RECEIVED

JUL 0 6 2009

LEGAL DIV. ARIZ CORPORATION COMMISSION AZ CORP COMMISSION

RECEIVED

Service List for: Ehrenberg Improvement Association Docket No. W-02273A-08-0251

Mr. Paul Linker Ehrenberg Improvement Association Post Office Box 50 Ehrenberg, Arizona 85334-0050

Ms. Janice M. Alward Chief, Legal Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Mr. Ernest G. Johnson Director, Utilities Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Ms. Lyn Farmer Chief, Hearing Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

#### STAFF REPORT UTILITIES DIVISION ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

## EHRENBERG IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION DOCKET NO. W-02273A-08-0251

APPLICATION FOR A
PERMANENT RATE INCREASE

#### STAFF ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Staff Report for Ehrenberg Improvement Association, Docket No. W-02273A-08-0251 was the responsibility of the Staff members listed below. Darak R. Eaddy was responsible for the financial review and analysis of the Company's application, recommended revenue requirement, rate base and rate design. Katrin Stukov was responsible for the engineering and technical analysis. Richard Martinez was responsible for reviewing the Commission's records on customer complaints filed with the Commission.

Darak R. Eaddy

Public Utility Analyst II

Katrin Stukov Utilities Engineer

Richard Martinez

Public Utilities Consumer Analyst II

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY EHRENBERG IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION APPLICATION FOR A PERMANENT RATE INCREASE DOCKET NO. W-02273A-08-0251

Ehrenberg Improvement Association ("Ehrenberg" or "Company") is a non-profit corporation that provides potable water service to customers in the town of Ehrenberg. Ehrenberg provides water services to approximately 311 customers, and its current rates were approved October 9, 1996, per Decision No. 59852.

The Company proposes total operating revenue of \$691,595<sup>1</sup>, an increase of \$430,258, or 164.64 percent over test year revenue of \$261,337, resulting in an operating margin of 58.34 percent. Staff recommends total operating revenue of \$299,570, an increase of \$37,621, or 14.36 percent over the Staff-adjusted test year revenue of \$261,949, resulting in an operating margin of 18.33 percent. The Company's proposed revenues result in an operating income of \$403,460. Staff recommended revenues would result in an operating income of \$54,915.

The Company has proposed an original cost rate base ("OCRB") of \$836,997. The Company's proposed rates would increase the typical 3/4-inch meter residential bill with a median usage of 5,327 gallons from \$20.87 to \$42.72, an increase of \$21.85 or 104.7 percent.

Staff has recommended an OCRB of \$317,489. Staff utilized an operating margin to determine revenue requirement due to Ehrenberg being a non-profit corporation. A rate of return is based on rate base and would allow the Company to earn a return on its investment which is contrary to Ehrenberg's status as a non-profit corporation. Additionally, Ehrenberg's low rate base level would not produce enough revenue utilizing an appropriate rate of return.

Staff's recommended rates would increase the typical 3/4-inch meter residential bill with a median usage of 5,327 gallons from \$20.87 to \$22.59, for an increase of \$1.72 or 8.2 percent.

#### Staff Recommendations:

Staff recommends approval of the Staff proposed rates and charges as shown in Schedule DRE-4, Pages 1 and 2. In addition to collection of its regular rates and charges, the Company may collect from its customers a proportionate share of any privilege, sales, or use tax as provided for in A.A.C. R14-2-409.D.

Staff further recommends that the above rates and charges not become effective until the first day of the month after the Company submits to Docket Control documentation from the Commission's Corporations Division that Ehrenberg is in good standing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Association requested total operating revenue of \$691,595 on the amended page 6 of the Association's application. However, the Association's proposed rates and rate structure would actually produce \$724,833 in revenues.

Staff further recommends that the Company be ordered to file with Docket Control, as a compliance item in this Docket, a tariff schedule of its new rates and charges within 30 days after the effective date of the Decision in this proceeding.

Staff further recommends that the Company file, as a compliance item in this Docket, no later than December 31, 2009, documentation issued by the Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR") indicating that the Company's System Water Plan meets ADWR requirements.

Staff further recommends that the Company record and report accurate data for number of customers in its future Annual Reports, beginning with the 2008 Annual Report filed in 2009.

Staff further recommends that the Company adopt the typical and customary depreciation rates as delineated on Table C in Section H of the attached Engineering Report.

Staff further recommends approval of separate installation charges for the service line and meter installation charges as delineated in Table D in Section I of the attached Engineering Report.

Staff recommends approval of the Company's curtailment tariff in this proceeding.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

				GE
FACT'SHEET				
Type of Ownership:	****************		,	1
Location:				
RATES:				1
TYPICAL 3/4-INCH RESIDENTIAL BILL:				
Customers: Notifications:				
SUMMARY OF FILING		•••••••	•••••	3
COMPANY BACKGROUND		••••••		3
CONSUMER SERVICES	•••••	•••••	•••••	4
COMPLIANCE	••••••		••••••	4
ENGINEERING		•••••	••••••	4
RATE BASE		••••••	***********	5
PLANT IN SERVICE		•		5
OTHER RATE BASE ITEMS	••••••	•••••••	•••••••	7
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION				7
CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION				
AMORTIZATION OF CIAC				
WORKING CAPITAL	•••••	•••••		8
OPERATING INCOME STATEMENT	•••••	•		8
OPERATING REVENUE	•••••	•••••		8
OPERATING EXPENSES				
OPERATING MARGIN	•••••	••••••		10
REVENUE REQUIREMENT	***************	••••••		10
RATE DESIGN				
KATE DESIGN			•••••••	11
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE CHARGES	*****			. 12
SERVICE LINE AND METER INSTALLATION CHARGES		•••••		13
CITA THE DESCONDANCE AND A STRONG				

#### **SCHEDULES**

Summary of Filing		Schedule DRE-1
Rate Base	mary of Filing  Base  ment of Operating Income  Design  cal Bill Analysis  ATTACHMENT  neering Report	Schedule DRE-2
Statement of Operating Income		Schedule DRE-3
Rate Design		Schedule DRE-4
Typical Bill Analysis		Schedule DRE-5
	ATTACHMENT	
Engineering Report		A

#### Fact sheet

Type of Ownership: Arizona Non-Profit Corporation.

<u>Location:</u> The Company provides potable water service to customers in the town of Ehrenberg, located at the state line between Arizona and California and on Interstate Highway 10, in La Paz County, Arizona.

Active Management Area: The Company is not located in an Active Management Area.

<u>Rates:</u> Permanent rate increase application filed: May 15, 2008. The application became sufficient on February 19, 2009.

Current Rates: Decision No. 59852, dated October 9, 1996.

Prior Test Year: December 31, 1995.

Current Test Year Ended: December 31, 2007.

#### **Metered Rates:**

	Company Current <u>Rates</u>	Company Proposed Rates	Staff Recommended Rates
Monthly Minimum Charge			
$5/8 \times 3/4$ – inch meter	\$ 18.75	\$ 23.00	\$ 15.00
³⁄₄ − inch meter	\$ 18.75	\$ 23.00	\$ 15.00
1 – inch meter	\$ 24.75	\$ 30.00	\$ 20.00
$1 - \frac{1}{2}$ – inch meter	\$ 27.75	\$ 33.00	\$ 25.00
2 – inch meter	\$ 47.75	\$ 72.00	\$ 50.00
3 – inch meter	\$ 100.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 100.00
4 – inch meter	\$ 125.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 175.00
6 – inch meter	\$ 150.00	\$ 304.00	\$ 300.00
8 – inch meter	\$ 250.00	\$ 529.00	\$ 525.00
Gallons in minimum	4,000	0	0
Per 1,000 Gallons for all usage	\$1.60	N/A	N/A
Tier One from 1 gallon to 4,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 2.90	N/A
Tier Two from 4,001 gallons to 6,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 4.06	N/A
Tier Three all gallons over 6,000	N/A	\$ 5.68	N/A

#### Fact Sheet (Continued)

	Company Current <u>Rates</u>	Company Proposed <u>Rates</u>	Staff Recommended <u>Rates</u>
Tier One from 1 gallon to 3,000 gallons Tier Two from 3,001 gallons to 8,000 gallons	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	\$1.25 \$1.65
Tier Three all gallons over 8,000	N/A	N/A	\$1.90
Typical 3/4-inch residential bill:			
Average use (10,781 gallons)	\$29.60	\$69.88	\$32.28
Median use (5,327 gallons)	\$20.87	\$42.72	\$22.59

#### **Customers:**

Number of customers in prior test year (12/31/95): 219

Average Number of customers in the current test year (12/31/07): 311

Current test year customers by meter size:

$5/8 \times 3/4 - inch$	0
3/4 - inch	179
1 - inch	87
1  1/2 - inch	11
2 - inch	15
3 - inch	7
4 - inch	2
6 - inch	2
8 - inch	1

#### Notifications:

An affidavit of mailing of the customer notification was filed on May 4, 2008.

Number of opinions filed against the rate increase application: 33.

Number of customer complaints filed against the Company from January 1, 2006 to June 8, 2009: 0.

#### **Summary of Filing**

The test year results as adjusted by Utilities Division Staff ("Staff"), for Ehrenberg Improvement Company ("Ehrenberg" or "Company") reflect total operating revenue of \$261,949 and operating income of \$17,295 for an operating margin of 6.60 percent as shown on Schedule DRE-1. The original cost rate base ("OCRB") as adjusted by Staff is \$317,489.

Ehrenberg's proposed rates would produce total operating revenue of \$691,595<sup>2</sup> and operating income of \$403,460, or a 58.34 percent operating margin. The Company's proposed rates would increase the typical 3/4-inch meter residential bill with a median usage of 5,327 gallons from \$20.87 to \$42.72, an increase of \$21.85 or 104.7 percent, as shown on Schedule DRE-5.

Staff recommended rates would produce total operating revenue of \$299,570 and operating income of \$54,915, or an 18.33 percent operating margin. Staff recommends an OCRB of \$317,489. Staff's recommended rates would increase the typical 3/4-inch meter residential bill with a median usage of 5,327 gallons from \$20.87 to \$22.59, for an increase of \$1.72 or 8.2 percent.

The Company reports that its proposed rate increase is necessary at this time due to rising operating expenses, creating difficulty for the Company to meet its financial obligations. The Company's financial difficulty is further exacerbated by Ehrenberg failing to file for a rate increase since 1996. The Company also noted that much of its equipment and plant is in need of upgrading and/or replacement, and that there is a critical need for additional funds to hire qualified employees/operators.

During the test year ended December 31, 2007, Ehrenberg provided potable water service to approximately 311 customers.

The Company is registered as an Arizona non-profit corporation with the Corporations Division of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission").

#### Company Background

Ehrenberg is an Arizona non-profit corporation that provides potable water service to customers in the town of Ehrenberg, located at the state line between Arizona and California and on Interstate Highway 10, in La Paz County, Arizona. The Company's service territory encompasses approximately 3,975 acres.

The Company received its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CC&N") in Commission Decision No. 48702, dated February 9, 1978. Ehrenberg's current rates were

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Association requested total operating revenue of \$691,595 on the amended page 6 of the Association's application. However, the Association's proposed rates and rate structure would actually produce \$724,833 in revenues.

established in Decision No. 59852, dated October 9, 1996. Ownership and control of the water utility operations of the Company was assumed by the Ehrenberg Utilities Association ("EUA") in 1996. Ehrenberg's board of directors disputed the transfer of ownership and the assets of the Company. In 2001, the La Paz County Superior Court decided for Ehrenberg and found that the transfer of the water utility operations to EUA from Ehrenberg was invalid. Operational control was resumed by Ehrenberg in 2003.

On May 15, 2008, Ehrenberg filed an application for a permanent rate increase. On June 16, 2008, Staff filed a Letter of Deficiency. An additional Letter of Deficiency was filed on August 14, 2008. Staff issued a Letter of Sufficiency on February 9, 2009. The Company provided evidence in its application that customers had been notified of the filing of the rate case by mail on May 4, 2008.

#### **Consumer Services**

A review of the Consumer Services Section database from January 1, 2006, through June 8, 2009, revealed that there were 33 opinions filed opposing the rate increase request. The review revealed that during the same time period there had been no complaints filed against the Company.

#### Compliance

The Utilities Division Compliance Section shows no outstanding compliance issues.

Ehrenberg is current on its property and sales tax payments.

Ehrenberg is not in good standing with the Corporations Division of the Commission. The Company has not filed its 2008 Annual Report due on April 29, 2009, with the Corporations Division as of June 8, 2009.

#### Engineering

The water system was field inspected on August 15, 2008, by Katrin Stukov, Staff Utilities Engineer, in the accompaniment of Joseph Leach, General Manager; Gus Alcala, Assistant Water Operator; Christina Balvanz, President of the Board; Paul Linker, Vice President of the Board; Denise Angel, Vice President at Large of the Board. A complete discussion of Staff's technical findings and recommendations and a complete description of the water system are provided in the attached Engineering Report (Attachment A).

Ehrenberg is not located in an Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR") designated Active Management Area ("AMA"). The ADWR has determined that the Company's water system is in compliance with the reporting requirements, and upon completion of its review of the Company's System Water Plan, which includes a Water Supply Plan,

Drought Preparedness Plan and Water Conservation Plan, ADWR will issue documentation stating whether or not the System Water Plan filed meets ADWR requirements.

The Company acknowledged discrepancies in number of customers previously reported in Water Use Data in its Annual Reports and explained that reported customer data included vacant, turn-off and collection accounts (instead of the actual customers that used water). Due to the unknown "actual" number of customers, growth projection is based on customer meters data obtained from the Company's Annual Reports. It is projected that the Company could have approximately 350 connections by 2012.

Staff has reviewed the curtailment tariff submitted by Ehrenberg with its rate application and has determined that this tariff generally conforms to the sample tariff found posted on the Commission's website.

#### Rate Base

Staff's adjustments decreased Ehrenberg's proposed rate base by \$519,508 from \$836,997 to \$317,489 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, page 1. Details of Staff's adjustments are discussed below.

#### Plant in Service

Staff's adjustments to plant in service resulted in a net decrease of \$428,751, from \$1,852,621 to \$1,423,870 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, page 2. A significant portion of Staff's decrease to plant in service was the result of Staff's adjustments to reflect the plant in service balances established in the Company's last rate case, by Decision No. 59852.

Due to the lack of records transferred from EUA to the Company for the 1996 to 2002 time period, documentation on plant additions for these years were non-existent.

Structures and Improvements - Adjustment "a" increases the structures and improvements account by \$24,949, from \$23,238 to \$48,187 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 3. Staff's adjusted amount reflects the \$43,222 balance established by Decision No. 59852, a \$5,065 increase in structures and improvements supported by documentation, and a \$100 retirement of plant.

Wells and Springs - Adjustment "b" increases the wells and springs account by \$8,221, from \$0 to \$8,221 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 3. Staff's adjusted amount reflects the \$8,221 balance established in Decision No. 59852.

Pumping Equipment - Adjustment "c" decreases the pumping equipment account by \$72,697, from \$103,720 to \$31,023 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 3. Staff's adjusted amount reflects the \$14,670 balance established in Decision No. 59852, a \$16,753 increase in the pumping equipment account that was supported by documentation, and a \$400

retirement of plant.

Water Treatment Equipment - Adjustment "d" decreases the water treatment equipment account by \$225,260, from \$455,634 to \$230,374 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 3. Staff's adjusted amount reflects the \$223,039 balance established in Decision No. 59852 and a \$7,335 increase in the water treatment equipment account supported by documentation.

Solution Chemical Feeders - Adjustment "e" decreases the solution chemical feeders account by \$32,329, from \$34,857 to \$2,528 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 3. Staff's adjusted amount reflects Staff's removal of unsupported plant additions.

Storage Tanks - Adjustment "f" decreases the storage tanks account by \$780,458, from \$1,068,267 to \$287,809 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 3. Staff's adjusted amount reflects the \$287,809 balance established in Decision No. 59852.

<u>Transmission and Distribution Mains</u> - Adjustment "g" increases the transmission and distribution mains account by \$408,159, from \$85,854 to \$494,013 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 3. Staff's adjusted amount reflects the \$473,113 balance established in Decision No. 59852 and a \$20,900 increase for transmission and distribution mains supported by documentation submitted by the Company.

<u>Services</u> - Adjustment "h" increases the services account by \$77,205, from \$0 to \$77,205 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 3. Staff's adjusted amount reflects the \$76,590 balance established in Decision No. 59852 and a \$615 increase in the services account supported by documentation.

Meters and Meter Installations - Adjustment "i" increases the meters and meter installations account by \$103,348 from \$0 to \$103,348 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 4. Staff's adjusted amount reflects the \$61,990 balance established in Decision No. 59852 and a \$41,358 increase in meters and meter installations supported by documentation.

<u>Hydrants</u> - Adjustment "j" increases the hydrants account by \$64,367 from \$0 to \$64,367 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 4. Staff's adjusted amount reflects the \$61,759 balance established in Decision No. 59852 and a \$2,608 increase in the hydrants account supported by documentation.

Office Furniture & Equipment - Adjustment "k" increases the office furniture and equipment account by \$832, from \$4,854 to \$5,686 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 4. Staff's adjusted amount reflects the \$4,331 balance established in Decision No. 59852 and a \$1,355 increase in office furniture and equipment supported by documentation.

Computers & Software - Adjustment "l" increases the computers and software account by \$1,478, from \$0 to \$1,478 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 4. Staff's adjusted amount reflects a \$1,478 increase in the account that was supported by documentation submitted by the

#### Company.

<u>Transportation Equipment</u> - Adjustment "m" decreases the transportation equipment account by \$12,885, from \$63,380 to \$50,495 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 4. Staff's adjusted amount reflects the \$2,050 balance established in Decision No. 59852 and a \$48,445 increase in transportation equipment supported by documentation.

Tools Shop & Garage Equipment - Adjustment "n" increases the tools shop and garage equipment account by \$2,711, from \$5,621 to \$8,332 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 4. Staff's adjusted amount reflects the \$1,773 balance established in Decision No. 59852 and a \$6,559 increase in tools, shop and garage equipment supported by documentation.

<u>Laboratory Equipment</u> - Adjustment "o" increases the laboratory equipment account by \$1,255, from \$2,396 to \$3,651 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 4. Staff's adjusted amount reflects a \$3,651 increase in the account that was supported by documentation submitted by the Company.

<u>Communication Equipment</u> - Adjustment "p" increases the communication equipment account by \$732, from \$0 to \$732 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 4. Staff's adjusted amount reflects a \$1,032 increase in the account that was supported by documentation submitted by the Company and \$300 in retirements.

<u>Miscellaneous Equipment</u> - Adjustment "q" increases the miscellaneous equipment account by \$1,622, from \$0 to \$1,622 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 2 and 4. Staff's adjusted amount reflects a \$1,622 increase in the account that was supported by documentation submitted by the Company.

#### Other Rate Base Items

#### **Accumulated Depreciation**

Staff decreased accumulated depreciation by \$264,156 from \$990,511 to \$726,355 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 1 and 5. The decrease is based upon several Staff adjustments made to plant in service account balances and the addition of depreciation expense to accumulated depreciation since the last rate case.

#### Contributions in Aid of Construction

Staff increased contributions in aid of construction ("CIAC") by \$1,006,379, from \$20,000 to \$1,026,379 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, page 1 and 6. The adjustment reflects Staff's calculation of CIAC based upon the balance established in Decision No. 59852 of \$1,076,000, \$20,000 in CIAC additions, and a retirement of \$69,621.

#### **Amortization of CIAC**

Staff increased amortization of CIAC by \$625,938, from \$1,185 to \$627,123 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, page 1 and 6. The adjustment reflects Staff's calculation of CIAC amortization based upon the balance established in Decision No. 59852 of \$319,013 and Staff's calculation of the CIAC account balance.

#### Working Capital

Staff's adjustments to working capital resulted in a net increase of \$25,528, from \$0 to \$25,528 as shown on Schedule DRE-2, pages 1 and 7, as a result of increasing cash working capital.

Cash working capital was calculated by using the formula method which equals oneeighth of the operating expenses less depreciation, taxes, purchased power and purchased water expenses, plus one twenty-fourth of purchased power and purchased water expenses.

#### **Operating Income Statement**

#### Operating Revenue

Staff's adjustment to operating revenue resulted in an increase of \$612 from \$261,337 to \$261,949, as shown on Schedule DRE-3, pages 1 and 2.

Adjustment 1 reflects total operating revenues based on the Company's submitted bill counts.

#### **Operating Expenses**

Staff's adjustment to operating expenses resulted in a decrease of \$43,480 from \$288,135 to \$244,655 as shown on Schedule DRE-3 page 1. The adjustments are explained below.

<u>Salaries and Wages</u> - Adjustment 2 increases salaries and wages by \$20,637 from \$84,657 to \$105,294 as shown on Schedule DRE-3, pages 1 and 2. The increase reflects Staff's calculation of salaries and wages expense based on the documentation submitted by the Company and several Staff adjustments.

In the course of the audit, Staff discovered the Company had been understaffed for several years and the current Company staff was working significantly reduced hours in order to maintain a lower salaries and wages expense. The Company's business office is currently open only 4 hours a day and the workforce has been reduced to the bare minimum.

Additionally, the level of expertise, training, and skills the current Company staff possessed was inadequate given the size of the Company and the complexities that come with

operating a larger utility. Ehrenberg's strategies and policies to keep salaries and wages lower has impacted the level of service it can offer customers and extended the time to process this rate application. Staff increased the salaries and wages expense by 15 percent to address these deficiencies. Staff's adjustment increased salaries and expenses by \$13,734.

Staff also adjusted the balance for salaries and wages expense to correct the Company's erroneously recording \$6,903 in payroll taxes in account 408 taxes other than income.

<u>Purchased Power</u> - Adjustment 3 decreases purchased power expense by \$265, from \$19,373 to \$19,108 as shown on Schedule DRE-3, pages 1 and 2. Staff's adjustment reflects Staff's calculation of purchased power expense based on the documentation submitted by the Company.

Repairs and Maintenance - Adjustment 4 decreases repairs and maintenance by \$2,107, from \$18,642 to \$16,536 as shown on Schedule DRE-3, pages 1 and 2. Staff's adjustment reflects Staff's calculation of repairs and maintenance based on the documentation submitted by the Company and the capitalization of \$1,092 in labor for a major upgrade to the Company's pumping equipment that the Ehrenberg partially recorded as repairs and maintenance.

Outside Services - Adjustment 5 decreases outside services expense by \$1,219, from \$18,754 to \$17,535 as shown on Schedule DRE-3, pages 1 and 2. Staff's adjustment reflects Staff's calculation of outside services expense based on the documentation submitted by the Company.

Water Testing – Adjustment 6 increases water testing by \$1,491 from \$3,199 to \$4,690 as shown on Schedule DRE-3, pages 1 and 2. This adjustment reflects the annual water testing costs determined by Staff and reported in the attached Engineering Report.

<u>Transportation Expenses</u> - Adjustment 7 decreases transportation expenses by \$6,267, from \$7,906 to \$1,639 as shown on Schedule DRE-3, pages 1 and 2. Staff's adjustment reflects Staff's removal of the loan payments for a truck that the Company financed without Commission approval.

Staff is not requesting that the Company submit a financing application for the truck loan as the purchase is scheduled to be completed in October 2009, likely before a final Commission Decision will be rendered in this rate application. Staff has recognized the value of the truck in account 341 Transportation Equipment.

<u>Regulatory Commission Expense – Rate Case</u> - Adjustment 8 increases regulatory commission expense – rate case by \$500, from \$0 to \$500 as shown on Schedule DRE-3, pages 1 and 2. Staff's adjustment reflects Staff's computation of the normalized level of annual rate case expense. The Company did not request rate case expense in its application.

<u>Depreciation Expense</u> - Adjustment 9 decreases depreciation expense by \$49,348, from \$63,192 to \$13,844 as shown on Schedule DRE-3, pages 1 and 3. This adjustment reflects Staff's calculation of depreciation expense applying Staff's recommended depreciation rates to Staff's recommended plant balances for Ehrenberg and the removal of CIAC amortization from depreciation expense.

Taxes other than Income - Staff's adjustment 10 decreases taxes other than income by \$6,903, from \$6,903 to \$0 as shown on Schedule DRE-3, pages 1 and 4. This adjustment reflects Staff's removal of payroll taxes incorrectly submitted by Ehrenberg as taxes other than income. Staff increased salaries and wages expense by \$6,903 to reflect the adjustment.

Interest Expense - Staff's adjustment 11 decreases interest expense by \$1,867, from \$22,400 to \$20,532 as shown on Schedule DRE-3, pages 1 and 4. This adjustment reflects Staff's calculation of the interest expense on the Company's two Commission-approved loans. The Company submitted documentation that shows that Ehrenberg paid \$17,013 in interest expense for the 1978 \$600,000 construction loan and \$3,519 in interest expense on the 1995 \$92,100 construction loan for a total interest expense of \$20,532.

#### **Operating Margin**

The Company's proposed rates and charges would provide an operating income of \$403,460 for an operating margin of 58.34 percent.

Staff's recommended rates and charges would provide an operating income of \$54,915 for an operating margin of 18.33 percent.

Staff utilized the operating margin to determine revenue requirement due to Ehrenberg being a non-profit corporation. A rate of return is based on rate base and would allow the Company to earn a return on its investment which is contrary to Ehrenberg's status as a non-profit corporation. Additionally, Ehrenberg's low rate base level would not produce enough revenue utilizing an appropriate rate of return.

#### Revenue Requirement

Staff recommends total operating revenue of \$299,570, a \$37,620 or 14.36 percent increase over the Staff adjusted test year operating revenue of \$261,949. Staff's recommended revenue provides an operating income of \$54,915, and an operating margin of 18.33 percent as shown in Schedule DRE-1.

In determining the revenue requirement, Staff endeavored to provide the Company sufficient funds to manage contingencies, operating expenses, below the line expenses, etc. Staff believes that an 18.33 percent operating margin provides ample funds to accomplish this goal.

The Company's Commission-approved loans require \$20,532 in interest expense and \$22,861 in principal repayment for a total of \$43,393 in annual debt service. Schedule DRE-1 shows the ratios for times interest earned ratio ("TIER") and debt service coverage ("DSC").

TIER represents the number of times earnings before income tax expense covers interest expense on debt. A TIER greater than 1.0 means that operating income is greater than interest expense. A TIER less than 1.0 is not sustainable in the long term but does not necessarily mean that debt obligations cannot be met in the short term. DSC represents the number of times internally generated cash (i.e., earnings before interest, income tax, depreciation, and amortization expenses) covers required principle and interest payments on debt. A DSC greater than 1.0 means operating cash flow is sufficient to cover debt obligations.

Schedule DRE-1, Staff as Adjusted column, shows that the implementation of Staff's recommended permanent rates for the Company's rate application. Staff's recommended rates produce a TIER of 2.67 and a DSC of 1.58. These ratios indicate that Ehrenberg would have sufficient earnings and operating cash flow to meet the long-term debt obligations on its Commission approved loans, pay its operating expenses, and have additional funds to meet contingencies.

#### Rate Design

Schedule DRE-4 Pages 1 and 2 presents a complete list of the Company's present, proposed, and Staff's recommended rates and charges.

The Company's present monthly customer charges vary by meter size as follows: 5/8-3/4 inch \$18.75; 3/4-inch, \$18.75; 1-inch, \$24.75; 11/2-inch, \$27.75; 2-inch, \$47.75; 3-inch, \$100.00; 4-inch, \$125.00; 6-inch, \$150.00; and 8-inch, \$250.00. 4,000 gallons are included in the minimum. The present commodity rate is a flat rate of \$1.60 per thousand gallons for all usage over 4,000 gallons.

The Company has requested an inverted three-tier rate structure with tier break-over points at 4,000 and 6,000 gallons with corresponding tier rates of \$2.90, \$4.06, and \$5.68. Staff also recommends an inverted three-tier rate structure but with tier break-over points at 3,000 and 8,000 gallons with corresponding tier rates of \$1.25, \$1.65, and \$1.90. The transition from a flat rate structure to an inverted three-tier structure required Staff to lower the current flat rate of \$1.60 to a first tier rate of \$1.25 and the current monthly minimum from \$18.75 to \$15.00.

The Company's proposed rates would increase the typical 3/4-inch meter residential bill with a median usage of 5,327 gallons from \$20.87 to \$42.72, an increase of \$21.85 or 104.7 percent, as shown on Schedule DRE-5.

Staff's recommended rates would increase the typical 3/4-inch meter residential bill with a median usage of 5,327 gallons from \$20.87 to \$22.59, for an increase of \$1.72 or 8.2 percent.

#### Miscellaneous Service Charges

The Company has proposed increases and/or changes to its establishment, establishment (after hours), reconnection (delinquent), reconnection (delinquent) after hours, meter test (if correct), deposit, deposit interest, NSF check, deferred payment (per month), meter re-read (if correct), and late fees. Staff notes that any increase in miscellaneous service charges recommended by Staff will have no effect on Staff's total annual operating revenue. This is a result of Staff offsetting any increase in miscellaneous service charges with an equal decrease in metered revenue.

The Company proposes to increase service charges for Establishment Fee from \$30 to \$40. Staff finds \$40 as a reasonable and normal charge and recommends it.

The Company proposes to increase service charges for Establishment (after hours) Fee from \$40 to \$60. Staff finds \$50 as a reasonable and normal charge and recommends it.

The Company proposes to increase service charges for Reconnection (delinquent) from \$30 to \$50. Staff finds \$50 as a reasonable and normal charge and recommends it.

The Company proposes to increase service charges for Reconnection (delinquent) after hours from N/A to \$50. Staff finds \$50 as a reasonable and normal charge and recommends it.

The Company proposes to increase Meter Tests (if correct) from \$25 to \$40. Staff finds \$25 as a reasonable and normal charge and recommends it.

The Company proposes to change the deposit service charge from Commission Rule R14-2-403 (B) to \$80. Staff finds that Commission Rule R14-2-403 (B) is a reasonable and normal charge and recommends it.

The Company proposes to change the deposit interest service charge from Commission Rules R14-2-403 (B) to 6.00 percent. Staff finds that Commission Rules R14-2-403 (B) is a reasonable and normal charge and recommends it.

The Company proposes to increase NSF charges from \$15 to \$50. Staff finds \$25 as a reasonable and normal charge and recommends it.

The Company proposes to increase deferred payments (per month) charges from 1.50 percent to 2.25 percent. Staff finds 1.50 percent as a reasonable and normal charge and recommends it.

The Company proposes to increase Meter Re-reads (if correct) from \$10 to \$15. Staff finds \$15 as a reasonable and normal charge and recommends it.

The Company proposes to increase late payment charge-per month from N/A to \$5.00. Staff finds 1.50 percent per month as a reasonable and normal charge and recommends it.

#### Service Line and Meter Installation Charges

Service line and meter installation charges are refundable advances. The Company has requested changes in its service line and meter installation charges and the requested charges are not within Staff's customary range of charges. The Company has not justified its requested charges. Staff will recommend the upper end of its own customary charges, plus charges for installation of 8-inch service line and meter "At Cost". Since the Company may at times install meters on existing service lines, it would be appropriate for some customers to only be charged for the meter installation. Therefore, separate service line and meter charges have been developed by Staff.

Staff recommends approval of Staff's Service Line and Meter Installation Charges as shown on Tables D in Section I of the attached Engineering Report.

#### **Staff Recommendations**

Staff recommends approval of the Staff proposed rates and charges as shown in Schedule DRE-4, Pages 1 and 2. In addition to collection of its regular rates and charges, the Company may collect from its customers a proportionate share of any privilege, sales, or use tax as provided for in A.A.C. R14-2-409.D.

Staff further recommends that the above rates and charges not become effective until the first day of the month after the Company submits to Docket Control documentation from the Commission's Corporations Division that Ehrenberg is in good standing.

Staff further recommends that the Company be ordered to file with Docket Control, as a compliance item in this Docket, a tariff schedule of its new rates and charges-within-30 days after the effective date of the Decision in this proceeding.

Staff further recommends that the Company file, as a compliance item in this Docket, no later than December 31, 2009, documentation issued by the Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR") indicating that the Company's System Water Plan meets ADWR requirements.

Staff further recommends that the Company record and report accurate data for number of customers in its future Annual Reports, beginning with the 2008 Annual Report filed in 2009.

Staff further recommends that the Company adopt the typical and customary depreciation rates as delineated on Table C in Section H of the attached Engineering Report.

Staff further recommends approval of separate installation charges for the service line

and meter installation charges as delineated in Table D in Section I of the attached Engineering Report.

Staff recommends approval of the Company's curtailment tariff in this proceeding.

#### **Ehrenberg Improvement Association Water Department**

Docket No. W-02273A-08-0251

Test Year Ended: December 31, 2007

Schedule DRE-2 Page 1 of 7

#### RATE BASE ----- Original Cost -----Company Adjustment Staff Plant in Service \$1,852,621 (\$428,751)Α \$1,423,870 Less: 990,511 726,355 Accum. Depreciation (264, 156)В \$862,110 Net Plant (\$164,595)\$697,515 Less: \$0 \$0 \$0 Plant Advances Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes 6,298 0 6,298 **Total Advances** \$6,298 \$0 \$6,298 \$1,006,379 C **Contributions Gross** \$20,000 \$1,026,379 1,185 625,938 D 627,123 Amortization of CIAC **Net CIAC** \$18,815 \$380,441 \$399,256 \$25,113 \$380,441 \$405,554 **Total Deductions** Plus: 1/24 Power \$0 \$796 Ε \$796 F 1/8 Operation & Maint. 0 24,732 24,732 0 0 0 Inventory Prepayments 0 0 0 \$0 \$25,528 **Total Additions** \$25,528 \$317,489 Rate Base \$836,997 (\$519,508)

#### Explanation of Adjustment:

- A See Schedule 2, Page 2, 3, and 4
- B See Schedule 2, Page 5
- C See Schedule 2, Page 6
- D See Schedule 2, Page 6
- E See Schedule 2, Page 7
- F See Schedule 2, Page 7

#### PLANT ADJUSTMENT

	Company Exhibit	Adjustment		Staff Adjusted
301 Organization	\$0	\$0		\$0
302 Franchises	0	0		0 :
303 Land & Land Rights	4,800	0		4,800
304 Structures & Improvements	23,238	24,949	а	48,187
305 Collecting & Impounding Reservoirs	0	0		0
306 Lake, River, Canal Intakes	0	0		0
307 Wells & Springs	0	8,221	b	8,221
308 Infiltration Galleries	0	0		0
309 Raw Water Supply Mains	. 0	0		0
310 Power Generated Equipment	0	0		0
311 Pumping Equipment	103,720	(72,697)	C	31,023
320 Water Treatment Equipment	0	D		D
320.1 Water Treatment Plants	455,634	(225,260)	d	230,374
320.2 Solution Chemical Feeders	34,857	(32,329)	е	2,528
330 Distribution Reservoirs & Standpipes	0	0		0
330.1 Storage Tanks	1,068,267	(780,458)	f	287,809
330.2 Pressure Tanks	0	0		0
331 Transmission & Distribution Mains	85,854	408,159	g	494,013
333 Services	0	77,205	h	77,205
334 Meters & Meter Installations	0	103,348	i	103,348
335 Hydrants	0	64,367	j	64,367
336 Backflow Prevention Devices	0	0		0
339 Other Plant and Misc. Equipment	0	0		0
340 Office Furniture & Equipment	4,854	832	k	5,686
340.1 Computers & Software	0	1,478	1	1,478
341 Transportation Equipment	63,380	(12,885)	m	50,495
342 Stores Equipment	0	0		0
343 Tools Shop & Garage Equipment	5,621	2,711	n	8,332
344 Laboratory Equipment	2,396	1,255	0	3,651
345 Power Operated Equipment	0	0		0
346 Communication Equipment	0	732	р	732
347 Miscellaneous Equipment	0	1,622	q	1,622
348 Other Tangible Plant	0	0		0
105 C.W.I.P.	0	0		0
TOTALS	\$1,852,621	(\$428,751)	Α	\$1,423,870

#### Explanation of Adjustment:

- a See Schedule 2, Page 3
- b See Schedule 2, Page 3
- c See Schedule 2, Page 3
- d See Schedule 2, Page 3 e See Schedule 2, Page 3
- f See Schedule 2, Page 3
- g See Schedule 2, Page 3 h See Schedule 2, Page 3
- i See Schedule 2, Page 4 j See Schedule 2, Page 4
- k See Schedule 2, Page 4
- I See Schedule 2, Page 4 m See Schedule 2, Page 4
- n See Schedule 2, Page 4 o See Schedule 2, Page 4 p See Schedule 2, Page 4
- q See Schedule 2, Page 4

and supported plant additions

Test Year Ended: December 31, 2007

Schedule DRE-2 Page 3 of 7

#### STAFF PLANT ADJUSTMENTS

а	<u>-</u>	STRUCTURES & IMPROVEMENTS - Per Company Per Staff	\$23,238 48,187	\$24,949
		To properly reflect account balance per Decision No. 59852 and supported plant additions		
b	<u>-</u>	WELLS & SPRINGS - Per Company Per Staff	\$0 8,221	\$8,221
		To properly reflect account balance per Decision No. 59852		
С	÷.	PUMPING EQUIPMENT - Per Company Per Staff	\$103,720 31,023	(\$72,697)
		To properly reflect account balance per Decision No. 59852 and remove unsupported claimed plant additions		
d	-	WATER TREATMENT PLANTS - Per Company Per Staff	\$455,634 230,374	(\$225,260)
		To properly reflect account balance per Decision No. 59852 and remove unsupported claimed plant additions		
е	-	SOLUTION CHEMICAL FEEDERS - Per Company Per Staff	\$34,857 2,528	(\$32,329)
		To properly reflect account balance per Decision No. 59852 and remove unsupported claimed plant additions		
f	-	STORAGE TANKS - Per Company Per Staff	\$1,068,267 287,809	(\$780,458)
		To properly reflect account balance per Decision No. 59852 and remove unsupported claimed plant additions		
g	•	TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION MAINS - Per Company Per Staff	\$85,854 494,013	\$408,159
		To properly reflect account balance per Decision No. 59852 and supported plant additions		
h	-	SERVICES - Per Company Per Staff	\$0 77,205	\$77,205
		To properly reflect account balance per Decision No. 59852		

Schedule DRE-2 Page 4 of 7

#### STAFF ADJUSTMENTS (Cont.)

i -	METERS & METER INSTALLATIONS - Per Company Per Staff	\$0 103,348	\$103,348
	To properly reflect account balance per Decision No. 59852 and supported plant additions		
j -	HYDRANTS - Per Company Per Staff	\$0 64,367	\$64,367
	To properly reflect account balance per Decision No. 59852 and supported plant additions		
k -	OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT - Per Company Per Staff	\$4,854 5,686	\$832
	To properly reflect account balance per Decision No. 59852 and supported plant additions		
1 -	COMPUTERS & SOFTWARE- Per Company Per Staff	\$0 1,478	\$1,478
	To properly reflect supported plant additions		
m -	TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT - Per Company Per Staff	\$63,380 50,495	(\$12,885)
	To properly reflect account balance per Decision No. 59852 and remove unsupported claimed plant additions		
n -	TOOLS SHOP & GARAGE EQUIPMENT - Per Company Per Staff	\$5,621 8,332	\$2,711
	To properly reflect account balance per Decision No. 59852 and supported plant additions		
o -	LABORATORY EQUIPMENT - Per Company Per Staff	\$2,396 3,651	\$1,255
	To properly reflect supported plant additions		
р -	COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT - Per Company Per Staff	\$0 732	\$732
	To properly reflect supported plant additions		
<b>q</b> -	MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT - Per Company Per Staff	\$0 1,622	\$1,622
	To properly reflect supported plant additions		
			interface and the first

#### **Ehrenberg Improvement Association Water Department**

Docket No. W-02273A-08-0251

Test Year Ended: December 31, 2007

Schedule DRE-2 Page 5 of 7

#### ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION ADJUSTMENT

**Amount** 

Accumulated Depreciation - Per Company Accumulated Depreciation - Per Staff

\$990,511 726,355

/9

#### **Total Adjustment**

(**\$264,156**) B

B - To reflect Staff's calculation of accumulated depreciation expense based upon Staff's adjustments to plant.

Accumulated Depreciation per Decision No. 59852		\$311,888
1996 Credit to Accumulated Depreciation	\$31,761	
1997 Credit to Accumulated Depreciation	\$31,761	
1998 Credit to Accumulated Depreciation	\$31,761	
1999 Credit to Accumulated Depreciation	\$31,637	
2000 Credit to Accumulated Depreciation	\$31,489	
2001 Credit to Accumulated Depreciation	\$31,489	
2002 Credit to Accumulated Depreciation	\$31,489	
2003 Credit to Accumulated Depreciation	\$32,892	
2004 Credit to Accumulated Depreciation	\$36,976	
2005 Credit to Accumulated Depreciation	\$40,257	
2006 Credit to Accumulated Depreciation	\$41,478	
2007 Credit to Accumulated Depreciation	\$42,275	
		\$415,267
2003 Plant Retirement	(\$100)	
2006 Plant Retirement	(\$500)	
2007 Plant Retirement	(\$200)	
		(\$800)
Accumulated Depreciation 12/31/2007 Staff Balance		\$726,355
Less: Company Balance		\$990,511
Staff Adjustment		(\$264,156)
and the second s		(420 1, 100)

### Ehrenberg Improvement Association Water Department Docket No. W-02273A-08-0251

Test Year Ended: December 31, 2007

Schedule DRE-2 Page 6 of 7

#### STAFF RATE BASE ADJUSTMENTS

С	- -	CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION ("CIAC") - Per Compar		<b>44</b> 000 070
		Per Staff	1,026,379	\$1,006,379
		To reflect Staff's calculation of CIAC based upon balance established by Decision No. 59852 and documentation submitted by the Company		
		CIAC balance 12/31/1995 per Decision No.59852		\$1,076,000
		2006 Addition to CIAC 2007 Addition to CIAC	\$16,768 \$3,232	_
		Total		\$20,000 \$1,096,000
		CIAC Retirement		(\$69,621)
		CIAC Balance 12/31/2007		\$1,026,379
D	-	AMORTIZATION OF CIAC - Per Company	\$1,185	·
		Per Staff	\$627,123	\$625,938
		To reflect Staff's calculation of amortization of CIAC based upon Staff's adjustments to CIAC account balance		
		Amortization of CIAC 12/31/1995 balance per Decision No. 59852		\$319,013
		1996 Addition to CIAC	\$25,397	
		1997 Addition to CIAC	\$25,397	
		1998 Addition to CIAC	\$25,397	
		1999 Addition to CIAC	\$25,397	
1.3		2000 Addition to CIAC	\$25,397	
		2001 Addition to CIAC	\$25,397	
		2002 Addition to CIAC	\$25,397	
		2003 Addition to CIAC	\$25,397	
700		2004 Addition to CIAC	\$25,397	
		2005 Addition to CIAC	\$25,397	
		2006 Addition to CIAC	\$26,445	
		2007 Addition to CIAC	\$27,695	
			42.,000	\$308,110
		Staff Balance, CIAC 12/31/2007		\$627,123
				Ţ <u>ŢŢ,,,</u>

#### **Ehrenberg Improvement Association Water Department**

Docket No. W-02273A-08-0251

Test Year Ended: December 31, 2007

Schedule DRE-2 Page 7 of 7

# E - WORKING CAPITAL (1/24 PURCHASED PWR & WTR) - Per Company Per Staff 796 \$796 To reflect Staff's calculation of cash working capital based upon Staff's recommendations for purchased power and purchased water F - WORKING CAPITAL (1/8 OPERATION & MAINT EXP) - Per Company Per Staff 24,732 \$24,732

To reflect Staff's calculation of cash working capital based upon Staff's recommendations for operation and maintenance expense (excluding purchased power and purchased water expenses)

Test Year Ended: December 31, 2007

#### STATEMENT OF OPERATING INCOME

	Company	Staff	Staff
	Exhibit	Adjustments	Adjusted
Revenues:			
461 Metered Water Revenue	\$259,082	\$612 1	\$259,694
460 Unmetered Water Revenue	0	0	0
474 Other Water Revenues	2,255	0	2,255
Total Operating Revenue	\$261,337	\$612	\$261,949
On-ordina Francisco			
Operating Expenses:	<b>COACE</b> 7	<b>600 637 0</b>	<b>#405 004</b>
601 Salaries and Wages 610 Purchased Water	\$84,657	\$20,637 2	\$105,294
615 Purchased Power	0 19,373	0 (265) 3	10 108
618 Chemicals	19,373		19,108
		0 (2.107) 4	10,633 16,536
620 Repairs and Maintenance 621 Office Supplies & Expense	18,642 7,077	(2,107) 4	7,077
630 Outside Services	18,754		
			17,535
635 Water Testing	3,199		4,690
641 Rents	10,600	(6.267) 7	10,600
650 Transportation Expenses	7,906	(6,267) 7	1,639
657 Insurance - General Liability 659 Insurance - Health and Life	10,716	0	10,716
	0	500 8	0
666 Regulatory Commission Expense - Rate Case	0 12,635	500 8	500
675 Miscellaneous Expense	•	(40.348) 0	12,635
403 Depreciation Expense 408 Taxes Other Than Income	63,192	(49,348) 9	13,844
	6,903	(6,903) 10	0
408.11 Property Taxes	13,849	0	13,849
409 Income Tax	0	0	
Total Operating Expenses	\$288,135	(\$43,480)	\$244,655
OPERATING INCOME/(LOSS)	(\$26,798)	\$44,093	\$17,295
Other Income/(Expense):			
419 Interest and Dividend Income	\$97	(\$0)	\$97
421 Non-Utility Income	25,030		
427 Interest Expense		(0)	25,030
4XX Reserve/Replacement Fund Deposit	22,400	(1,867) 11	20,532
	Û	0	0
426 Miscellaneous Non-Utility Expense	<u> </u>	<u>0</u>	0
Total Other Income/(Expense)	\$2,728	\$1,867	\$4,595
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	(\$24,071)	\$45,960	\$21,889

#### STAFE ADJUSTMENTS

1 -	METERED WATER REVENUE - Per Company Per Staff	\$259,082 259,694	\$613
	To reflect the metered water revenue per the Company's submitted bill count		
2 -	SALARIES AND WAGES - Per Company Per Staff	\$84,657 105,294	\$20,637
	To reflect Staff's computation of annual salaries and wages and Staff's adjustment to correctly record payroll taxes incorrectly recorded as taxes other than income		
	Salaries and Wages balance per Company	\$84,657	
	Staff Adjustment to correctly record payroll taxes Staff's adjusted balance	\$6,903 \$91,560	
	Staff's recommended adjustment to address deficiencies	\$13,734	
	Staff's recommended balance for Salaries and Wages	\$105,294	
3 -	PURCHASED POWER - Per Company Per Staff	\$19,373 19,108	(\$265)
	To reflect Staff's computation of Purchased Power based on submitted invoices		
4 -	REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE - Per Company Per Staff	\$18,642 16,536	(\$2,107)
	To reflect Staff's computation of Repairs & Maintenance based on based on submitted documentation and Staff's capitalizing labor on pumping equipment installation		
5 -	OUTSIDE SERVICES - Per Company Per Staff	\$18,754 17,535	(\$1,219)
	To reflect Staff's computation of Outside Services based on Staff's removal of unsupported claimed expenses		
6 -	WATER TESTING - Per Company Per Staff	\$3,199 4,690	\$1,491
	To reflect Staff's annual water testing expense		
7 -	TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES - Per Company Per Staff	\$7,906 1,639	(\$6,267)
	To reflect Staff's removal of payments on a vehicle loan that was never approved by the Commission		
8 -	REGULATORY COMMISSION EXPENSE - RATE CASE - Per Company Per Staff	\$0 500	\$500
	To reflect a normalized level of annual rate case expense.		

#### STAFF ADJUSTMENTS (Cont.)

9 -**DEPRECIATION - Per Company** Per Staff '

\$63,192

13,844

(\$49,348)

Explanation of Adjustment:

Pro Forma Annual Depreciation Expense:

	Pro Forma Annual Depreciation Expense:									
			PLANT in	!	onDepreciable		DEPRECIABLE			PRECIATION
•				þr Fi	ully Depreciate	l	PLANT	DEPRECIATION		EXPENSE
	DESCRIPTION		Per Staff		PLANT	L_	(Col A - Col B)	RATE	(C	ol C x Col D)
	Organization	\$		\$	-	\$	•	0.00%	\$	-
	Franchises	\$		\$	-	\$	-	0.00%	\$	-
	Land & Land Rights	\$	4,800	\$	4,800	\$	-	0.00%	\$	-
	Structures & Improvem	\$	48,187	\$	-	\$	48,187	3.33%	\$	1,605
	Collecting & Impoundir	\$	· · · · · · · -	\$	-	\$	-	2.50%	\$	-
	Lake, River, Canal Inta	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	-	\$	-	2.50%	\$	-
	Wells & Springs	\$	8,221	\$	-	\$	8,221	3.33%	\$	274
	Infiltration Galleries	\$	: -	\$	-	\$	-	2.00%	\$	-
	Raw Water Supply Mai	\$	•	\$	-	\$	-	5.00%	\$	-
	Power Generated Equi	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	12.50%	\$	-
	Pumping Equipment	\$	31,023	\$	-	\$	31,023	20.00%	\$	6,205
	Water Treatment Equip	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%	\$	-
	Water Treatment Pla	\$	230,374	\$	-	\$	230,374	3.33%	\$	7,679
	Solution Chemical Fe	\$	2,528	\$	-	\$	2,528	20.00%	\$	506
	Distribution Reservoirs	\$	-	\$	-	\$	•	0.00%	\$	-
	Storage Tanks	\$	287,809	\$	-	\$	287,809	2.22%	\$	6,396
	Pressure Tanks	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	5.00%	\$	-
	Transmission & Distrib	\$	494,013	\$	-	\$	494,013	2.00%	\$	9,880
	Services	\$	77,205	\$	-	\$	77,205	3.33%	\$	2,574
	Meters & Meter Installa	\$	103,348	\$	-	\$	103,348	8.33%	\$	8,612
	Hydrants	\$	64,367	\$	-	\$	64,367	2.00%	\$	1,287
	Backflow Prevention D	\$	•	\$	-	\$	-	6.67%	\$	-
	Other Plant and Misc. I	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	6.67%	\$	-
	Office Furniture & Equi	\$	5,686	\$	-	\$	5,686	6.67%	\$	379
	Computers & Softwar	\$	1,478	\$	-	\$	1,478	20.00%	\$	296
	Transportation Equipm	\$	50,495	\$	2,050	\$	48,445	20,00%	\$	9,689
	Tools Shop & Garage I	\$	8,332	\$	-	\$	8,332	5.00%	\$	417
	Laboratory Equipment	\$	3,651	\$	•	\$	3,651	10.00%	\$	365
	Power Operated Equip	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	5.00%	\$	-
	Communication Equipr	\$	732	\$	-	\$	732	10.00%	\$	73
	Miscellaneous Equipm	\$	1,622	\$	-	\$	1,622	10.00%	\$	162
	Other Tangible Plant	\$		\$	-	\$	-	0.00%	\$	-
	Total	\$	1,423,870	\$	6,850	\$	1,417,020		\$	56,398

Depreciation Expense Before Amortization of CIAC: \$ 56,398 Amortization of CIAC \$ 42,554

Test Year Depreciation Expense - Staff: \$ 13,844

Depreciation Expense - Company: \$63,192 Staff's Total Adjustment: \$ (49,348)

Pro Forma Annual Depreciation Expense:

Plant in Service	\$1,423,870
Less: Non Depreciable Plant	4,800
Fully Depreciated Plant	2,050
Depreciable Plant	\$1,417,020
Times: Staff Proposed Depreciation Rate	3.98%
Full Year Credit to Accumulated Depreciation	\$56,398
Less: Amort. of CIAC* @ 3.98%	42,554
Pro Forma Annual Depreciation Expense	\$13,844

## Ehrenberg Improvement Association Water Department Docket No. W-02273A-08-0251 Test Year Ended: December 31, 2007

Schedule DRE-3 Page 4 of 4

#### STAFF ADJUSTMENTS (Cont.)

10 -	TAXES OTHER THAN INCOME - Per Company Per Staff	\$6,903 0	(\$6,903)
	To reflect Staff's adjustment for payroll taxes incorrectly recorded		
11 -	INTEREST EXPENSE - Per Company Per Staff	\$22,400 20,532	(\$1,867)

To reflect Staff's calculation of interest expense for Commission approved loans

# **Ehrenberg Improvement Association Water Department**

Docket No. W-02273A-08-0251

Test Year Ended: December 31, 2007

Schedule DRE-4 Page 1 of 2

# RATE DESIGN

	Present	-Propos	sed Rates-
Monthly Usage Charge	Rates	Company	Staff
5/8" x 3/4" Meter	\$18.75	\$23.00	\$15.00
3/4" Meter	18.75	23.00	15.00
1" Meter	24.75	30.00	20.00
1½" Meter	27.75	33.00	25.00
2" Meter	47.75	72.00	50.00
3" Meter	100.00	120.00	100.00
4" Meter	125.00	150.00	175.00
6" Meter	150.00	304.00	300.00
8" Meter	250.00	529.00	525.00
Gallons Included in Minimum			
For all Meter Sizes	4,000	0	
Commodity Rates:			
Per 1,000 Gallons for all usage (over 4,000 gallons)	\$1.60	N/A	N/A
Per 1,000 Gallons for 0 to 4,000 Gallons	N/A	\$2.90	N/A
Per 1,000 Gallons for 4,001 to 6,000 Gallons	N/A	\$4.06	n NA ea
Per 1,000 Gallons for Gallons in Excess of 6,000	N/A	\$5.68	N/A
Per 1,000 Gallons for 0 to 3,000 Gallons	N/A	N/A	\$1.25
Per 1,000 Gallons for 3,001 to 8,000	N/A	N/A	\$1.65
Per 1,000 Gallons for Gallons in Excess of 8,000	N/A	N/A	\$1.90
Construction - for all usage	N/A	\$3.00	\$1.90

Docket No. W-02273A-08-0251 Test Year Ended: December 31, 2007

# RATE DESIGN (Cont.)

## Service Line and Meter Installation Charges

Same Side of Road as Water Main

Tarrio otto of fraction fraction					
	Company	Company	Staff's Recommendation		
Meter Size	Current	Proposed	Service	Meter	Total
	Tariff	Tariff	Line Charge	Charge	Charge
5/8 x 3/4-inch	\$365	\$1,160	\$445	\$155	\$600
3/4-inch	\$405	\$1,205	\$445	\$255	\$700
1-inch	\$455	\$1,390	\$495	\$315	\$810
11/₂-inch	\$655	\$2,175	\$550	\$525	\$1,075
2-inch Turbo	\$1,080	\$2,880	\$830	\$1,045	\$1,875
2-inch Compound	\$1,580	\$2,990	\$830	\$1,890	\$2,720
3-inch Turbo	\$1,460	\$2,735	\$1:045	\$1,670	\$2,715
3-inch Compound	\$2,030	\$3,660	\$1,165	\$2,545	\$3,710
4-inch Turbo	\$2,350	\$3,715	- \$1,490	\$2,670	\$4,160
4-inch Compound	\$2,985	\$5,710	\$1.670	\$3,645	\$5,315
6-inch Turbo	\$4,450	\$6,023	\$2,210	<b>\$5,025</b>	\$7,235
6-inch Compound	\$5,780	\$10,065	\$2,330	¥\$6,920	\$9,250
8-inch Turbo	\$7,450	\$8,610	At Cost	At Cost	At Cost
8-inch Compound	\$9,695	\$16,205	At Cost		At Cost

# Service Charges

	Present	-Propose	ed Rates-
Service Charges	Rates	Company 🥻	Staff = #
Establishment	\$30.00	\$40.00	\$40.00
Establishment (After Hours)	40.00	60.00	50.00
Reconnection (Delinquent)	30.00	50.00	50.00
Reconnection (Delinquent) after hours	N/A	50.00	50.00
Meter Test (if correct)	25.00	40.00	25.00
Deposit	*	80.00	•
Deposit Interest	*	6.00%	
Re-Establishment (Within 12 Months)	**	**	**
NSF Check	15.00	50.00	25.00
Deferred Payment (per month)	1.50%	2.25%	1.50%
Meter Re-Read (If Correct)	10.00	15.00 🖁	15,00
Late Fee	N/A	5.00	1.50%
		•	
Monthly Service Charge for Fire Sprinkler			* 19
4" or Smaller	***	N/A	Arth 1
6"	***	N/A	****
8"	***	N/A	****
10"	***	N/A	****
Larger than 10"	***	N/A	****

\* Per Commission Rules R14-2-403(B)

\*\* Months off system times the monthly minimum (R14-2-403.D)

\*\*\* 1.00% of Monthly Minimum for a Comparable Sized Meter Connection, but no less than \$5.00 per month. The Service Charge for Fire Sprinklers is only applicable for service lines separate and distinct from the primary water service line.

2.00% of Monthly Minimum for a Comparable Sized Meter Connection, but no less than \$10.00 per month. The Service Charge for Fire Sprinklers is only applicable for service lines separate and distinct from the primary water service line. Docket No. W-02273A-08-0251 Test Year Ended: December 31, 2007

# TYPICAL BILL ANALYSIS

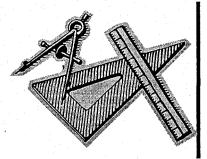
# General Service 3/4 - Inch Meter

Average Number of Customers: 174

Company Proposed	Gallons	Present Rates	Proposed Rates	Dollar Increase	Percent Increase
Average Usage	10,781	\$29.60	\$69.88	\$40.28	136.1%
Median Usage	5,327	\$20.87	\$42.72	\$21.85	104.7%
Staff Recommend					
Average Usage	10,781	\$29.60	\$32.28	\$2.68	9.1%
Median Usage	5,327	\$20.87	\$22.59	\$1,72	8.2%

# Present & Proposed Rates (Without Taxes) General Service 3/4 - Inch Meter

		Company		Staff	
Gallons	Present	Proposed	%	Proposed	%
Consumption	Rates	Rates	<u>Increase</u>	Rates	Increase
	\$18.75	\$23.00	22.7%	\$15.00	-20.0%
1,000	18.75	25.90	38.1%	16.25	-13.3%
2,000	18.75	28.80	53.6%	17.50	-6.7%
3,000	18.75	31.70	69.1%	18.75	0.0%
4,000	18.75	34.60	84.5%	20,40	8.8%
5,000	20.35	38.66	90.0%	22.05	8.4%
6,000	21.95	42.72	94.6%	23,70	8.0%
7,000	23.55	48.40	105.5%	25,35	7.6%
8,000	25.15	54.08	115.0%	27.00	7.4%
9,000	26.75	59.76	123.4%	28.90	8.0%
10,000	28.35	65.44	130.8%	30.80	8.6%
15,000	36.35	93.84	158.2%	40.30	10.9%
20,000	44.35	122.24	175.6%	49.80	12.3%
25,000	52.35	150.64	187.8%	59.30	13.3%
50,000	92.35	292.64	216.9%	106.80	15.6%
75,000	132.35	434.64	228.4%	154.30	16.6%
100,000	172.35	576.64	234.6%	201.80	17.1%
125,000	212.35	718.64	238.4%	249.30	17.4%
150,000	252.35	860.64	241.1%	296.80	17.6%
175,000	292.35	1,002.64	243.0%	344,30	17.8%
200,000	332.35	1,144.64	244.4%	391.80	17.9%



ENGINEERING REPORT FOR EHRENBERG IMPROVEENT ASSOCIATION DOCKET NO. W-02273A-08-0251

BY: KATRIN STUKOV UTILITIES ENGINEER



**OCTOBER 16, 2008** 

#### **SUMMARY**

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

- 1. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality ("ADEQ") reported no deficiencies and has determined that the Ehrenberg system is currently delivering water that meets the water quality standards required by 40 CFR141/Arizona Administrative Code, Title 18, Chapter 4.
- 2. The Company's water system has a water loss of 7.75 percent. This percentage is within acceptable limit of 10 percent.
- 3. The Company's water system pumping and storage capacities are adequate to serve the present customer base and a reasonable level of growth.
- 4. The Company is not located in an Arizona Department of Water Resources ('ADWR") designated Active Management Area ("AMA"). The ADWR has determined that the Company's water system is in compliance with the reporting requirements, and upon completion of its review of the Company's System Water Plan, which includes a Water Supply Plan, Drought Preparedness Plan and Water Conservation Plan, ADWR will issue documentation stating whether or not the System Water Plan filed meets ADWR requirements.
- 5. The Company has no outstanding Arizona Corporation Commission ("ACC") compliance issues.
- 6. Staff has reviewed the curtailment tariff submitted by the Company with its Rate Application and has determined that this tariff generally conforms to the sample tariff found posted on the Commission's website.
- 7. The Company has an approved backflow prevention tariff.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Staff recommends that the Company file as a compliance item in this docket no later than December 31, 2009, documentation issued by ADWR indicating that the Company's System Water Plan met ADWR requirements.
- 2. Staff recommends that the Company record and report accurate data for number of customers in its future Annual Reports, beginning with the 2008 Annual Report filed in 2009.
- 3. Staff recommends that annual water testing expense of \$4,690 be used for this proceeding.
- 4. Staff recommends that the Company adopt the depreciation rates delineated in Table C.
- 5. Staff recommends that the Company adopt Staff's recommended Service Line and Meter Installation Charges as delineated in Table D.
- 6. Staff recommends approval of the Company's curtailment tariff in this proceeding.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
A. INTRODUCTION AND LOCATION OF COMPANY	1
B. DESCRIPTION OF THE WATER SYSTEMS	3
C. WATER USE	
Water Sold	the second of th
Non-account Water	6
System Analysis	
D. GROWTH	7
E. ADEQ COMPLIANCE	8
Compliance	
Water Testing Expense	8
F. ADWR COMPLIANCE	9
G. ACC COMPLIANCE	9
H. DEPRECIATION RATES	9
I. OTHER ISSUES	11
1. Service Line and Meter Installation Charges	
2. Curtailment Plan Tariff	
3. Backflow Prevention Tariff	

## A. INTRODUCTION AND LOCATION OF COMPANY

On May 16, 2008, Ehrenberg Improvement Association ("Company") filed a rate application with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("ACC" or "Commission"). The Company serves its customers in Ehrenberg, located at the Arizona state line and Interstate Highway 10.

Figure 1 shows the location of the Company within La Paz County and Figure 2 delineates the approximate 3,975 acres of certificated area.

Figure1

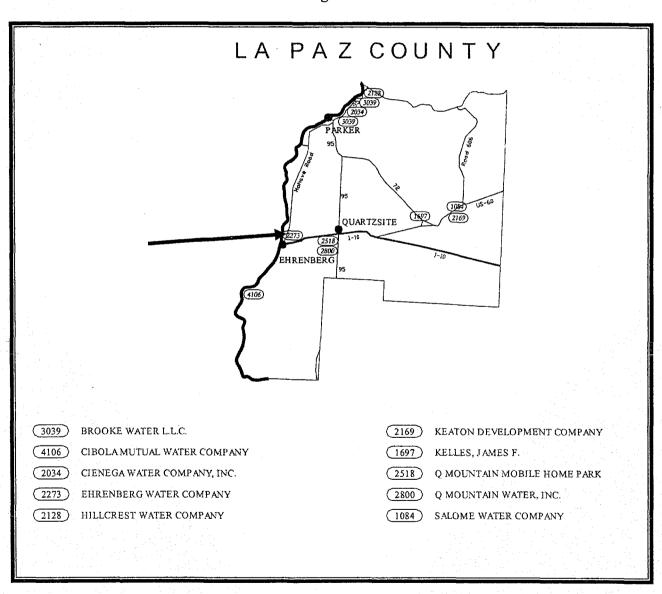
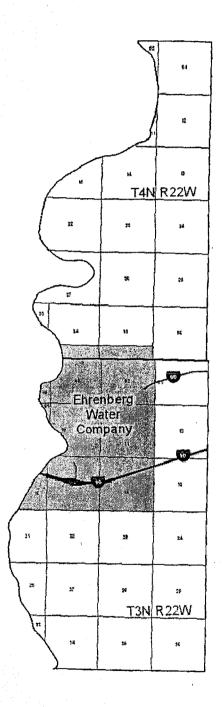


Figure2



#### B. DESCRIPTION OF THE WATER SYSTEMS

The plant facilities were visited on August 15, 2008, by Katrin Stukov in the accompaniment of Joseph Leach, General Manager; Gus Alcala, Assistant Water Operator; Christina Balvanz, President of the Board; Paul Linker, Vice President of the Board; Denise Angel, Vice President at Large of the Board.

The operation of the water system consists of the following major components:

- Colorado River intake system, including two vertical turbine intake pumps mounted over the river. One intake pump is standby and has no electrical connection.
- Water treatment system, including flocculent-feeder system, four multimedia pressure filters, gas chlorination system and two contact time holding tanks. During a treatment process, a flocculent is injected into the untreated water as it is pumped to the pressure filters. Gas chlorine is injected into the filtered water as it flows to 30,000 gallon and 5,000 gallon contact time holding tanks (which allow the contact time for the chlorine to act), prior to entering the distribution system.
- Storage facilities, including two 600,000 gallon steel storage tanks. The storage tank site is approximately 3.5 miles from the water treatment site. The tanks are located on top of a hill and feed the distribution system by gravity flow.
- Distribution system. The water system had 307 meters and served 297 customers during the test year of 2007.

Table A shows the plant facilities summary<sup>1</sup>. Figure 3 provides a process schematic for the water system.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on the Company's Rate Application and Staff's site visit

# Table A. Plant Facilities Summary

# Water Mains

# Size Material Length 6" AC 2,925 8" AC 8,220 12" AC 267,000

# Meters

Size	Quantity
5/8"X3/4"	0
3/4"	179
1"	87
1-1/2"	11
2" comp.	2
2" turbo	13
3" comp.	0
3" turbo	7
4" comp.	2
4" turbo	0
6" comp.	2
6" turbo	0
8" turbo	1
Hydrant Meter	3
Total	307

# Fire Hydrants

Size	Quantity
Standard	63
* * * .	
	100
	1 to

# Surface Water Source

Intake	No.1	No.2
Casing Size	8-inch	8-inch
Pump Capacity	100-Hp & 1,500 GPM	100-Hp & 1,500 GPM
Pumping Rate	640 GPM	standby pump (no electrical connection)

Treatment Equipment

Eleganiant fooder aveters	 · ·
Flocculent-feeder system	
Four custom designed multi-media pressure filters	
Gas chlorination system	
30,000 gallon contact time holding tank	
5,000 gallon contact time holding tank	

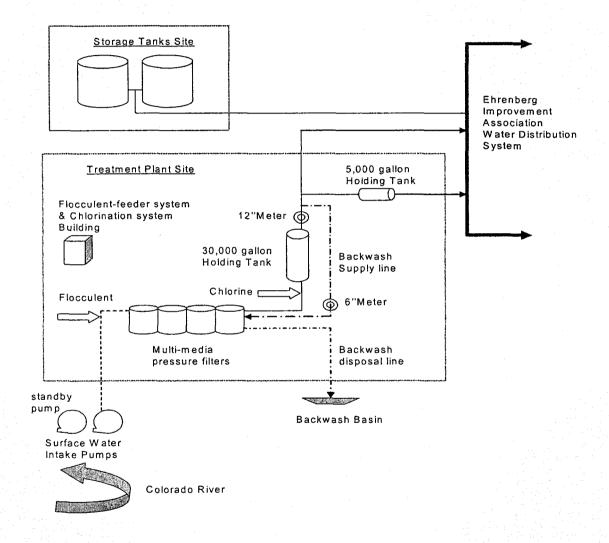
Storage Tanks

Size	600,000 gallons
Quantity	2

# Structures

Intake Site	Intake structure, fence		
Treatment Plant Site	tment Plant Site 6'x5' steel chlorination building, 30'x40'steel storage		
	building, 10'x 20' framed office for recording equipment, fence		
Tank Site	fence		

Figure 3 System Schematic



#### C. WATER USE

## Water Sold

Figure 4 represents the water consumption data for the test year ending December 31, 2007, provided by the Company in its water use data sheet. Customer consumption included a high monthly water use of 1,517 gallons per day ("GPD") per connection in July, and the low water use was 633 GPD per connection in December. The average annual use was 1,090 GPD per connection.

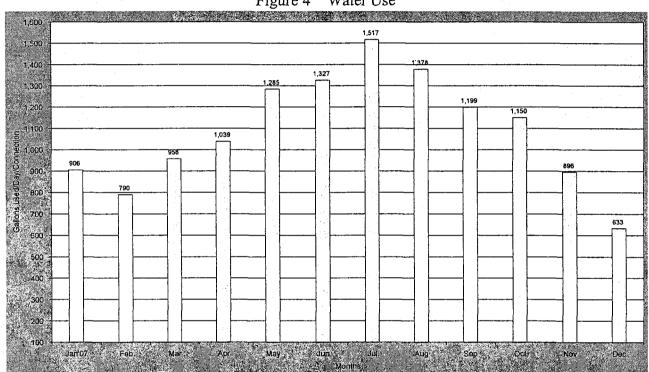


Figure 4 Water Use

#### Non-account Water

Non-account water should be 10 percent or less. It is important to be able to reconcile the difference between water sold and the water produced by the source. A water balance will allow a company to identify water and revenue losses due to leakage, theft and flushing. The Company reported 150,058,000 gallons pumped, 117,358,256 gallons sold, and 21,069,835 gallons of metered non-revenue water used for backwashing the treatment equipment and line flushing, resulting in a water loss of 7.75 percent. This percentage is within acceptable limit of 10 percent.

## System Analysis

Based on the data provided by the Company, the water system's surface water intake pumps total pumping capacity is 640 GPM and storage capacity is 1,200,000 gallons. The system had 297

customers during the test year of 2007. Staff concludes that the Company's water system pumping and storage capacities are adequate to serve the present customer base and reasonable growth.

#### D. GROWTH

The Company acknowledged discrepancies in number of customers previously reported in Water Use Data in its Annual Reports and explained that reported customer data included vacant, turn-off and collection accounts (instead of the actual customers that used water). Due to the unknown "actual" number of customers, growth projection is based on customer meters data obtained from the Company's Annual Reports. It is projected that the Company could have approximately 350 connections by 2012. Figure 5 depicts actual growth from 2003 to 2007 and provides a projected growth for the next five years using linear regression analysis. Staff recommends that the Company record and report accurate data for number of customers in its future Annual Reports, beginning with the 2008 Annual Report filed in 2009.

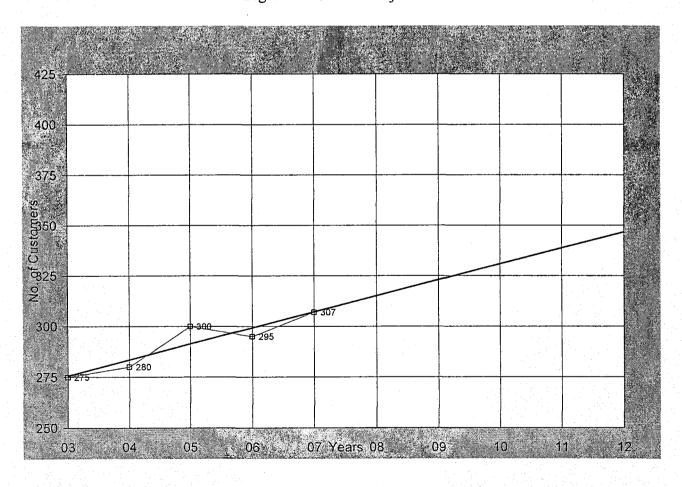


Figure 5 Growth Projection

## E. ADEQ COMPLIANCE

# Compliance

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality ("ADEQ") regulates the water system under ADEQ Public Water System I.D. #15-497. According to an ADEQ Compliance Status Report, dated June 12, 2009, ADEQ reported no deficiencies and has determined that the Ehrenberg system is currently delivering water that meets the water quality standards required by 40 CFR141/Arizona Administrative Code, Title 18, Chapter 4.

## Water Testing Expense

The Company is subject to mandatory participation in the Monitoring Assistance Program ("MAP"). Participation in the MAP program is mandatory for water systems, which serve less than 10,000 persons (approximately 3,300 service connections).

The Company reported its water testing expense at \$3,199<sup>2</sup> during the test year. Staff has reviewed the Company's testing expense and has recalculated testing costs based on tests required by ADEQ and the Company's responses to Data Requests received on July 15, 2008. Table B below shows Staff's annual water monitoring expense estimate of \$4,690 with participation in the MAP program.

Table B Water Testing Cost

Monitoring	Cost per sample	No. of samples per year	Annual Cost
Total coliform - monthly	\$17	24	\$408
Maximum Residual Disinfection Level ("MRDL")	\$20	24	\$480
E. coli – once every 2 weeks for 12 month <sup>3</sup>	\$30	24	\$720
Misc.: Courier Service	\$20	24	\$480
MAP – IOCs, Radiochemical, Nitrate, Nitrite, Asbestos, SOCs, & VOCs	MAP	MAP	\$1,219 <sup>4</sup>
Lead & Copper – per 3 years	\$43	10/3-yrs	\$143
D/DBP:			
TTHM-quarterly	\$100	4	\$400
HAA5-quarterly	\$210	4	\$840
Total			\$4,690

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Per Company's responses received on September 29, 2008.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Per ADEQ letter dated July 18, 2008

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Per MAP invoice for 2008 Calendar Year

## F. ADWR COMPLIANCE

The Company is not located in an ADWR designated AMA.

According to an ADWR Compliance Status Report, dated June 27, 2008, the Company's water system is in compliance with the reporting requirements of *Arizona Revised Statutes* § 45-341-343. Upon completion of its review of the Company's System Water Plan, which includes a Water Supply Plan, Drought Preparedness Plan and Water Conservation Plan, ADWR will issue documentation stating whether or not the System Water Plan filed meets ADWR requirements.

#### G. ACC COMPLIANCE

A check with Utilities Division Compliance Section showed that there are currently no delinquent compliance items for the Company<sup>5</sup>.

#### H. DEPRECIATION RATES

Staff has developed typical and customary depreciation rates within a range of anticipated equipment life. These rates are presented in Table C. Staff recommends that the Company adopt Staff's typical and customary depreciation rates in the accounts listed in Table C on a going-forward basis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Per ACC Compliance status check dated June 17, 2008

TABLE C

TYPICAL DEPRECIATION RATES FOR WATER COMPANIES

		Average	Annual
NARUC	Depreciable Plant	Service Life	Accrual Rate
Account No.		(Years)	(%)
304	Structures & Improvements	30	3.33
305	Collecting & Impounding Reservoirs	40	2.50
306	Lake, River, Canal Intakes	40	2.50
307	Wells & Springs	30	3.33
308	Infiltration Galleries	15	6.67
309	Raw Water Supply Mains	50	2.00
310	Power Generation Equipment	20	5.00
311	Pumping Equipment	8	12.5
320	Water Treatment Equipment		
320.1	Water Treatment Plants	30	3.33
320.2	Solution Chemical Feeders	5	20.0
330	Distribution Reservoirs & Standpipes		1.0
330.1	Storage Tanks	45	2.22
330.2	Pressure Tanks	20	5.00
331	Transmission & Distribution Mains	50	2.00
333	Services	30	3.33
334	Meters	12	8.33
335	Hydrants	50	2.00
336	Backflow Prevention Devices	15	6.67
339	Other Plant & Misc Equipment	15	6.67
340	Office Furniture & Equipment	15	6.67
340.1	Computers & Software	5	20.00
341	Transportation Equipment	5	20.00
342	Stores Equipment	25	4.00
343	Tools, Shop & Garage Equipment	20	5.00
344	Laboratory Equipment	10	10.00
345	Power Operated Equipment	20	5.00
346	Communication Equipment	10	10.00
347	Miscellaneous Equipment	10	10.00
348	Other Tangible Plant		

## NOTES:

- 1. These depreciation rates represent average expected rates. Water companies may experience different rates due to variations in construction, environment, or the physical and chemical characteristics of the water.
- 2. Acct. 348, Other Tangible Plant may vary from 5% to 50%. The depreciation rate would be set in accordance with the specific capital items in this account.

#### I. OTHER ISSUES

# 1. Service Line and Meter Installation Charges

Service line and meter charges are refundable advances. The Company has requested changes in its service line and meter installation charges and the requested charges are not within Staff's customary range of charges. The Company has not justified its requested charges. Staff will recommend the upper end of its own customary charges, plus charges for installation of 8-inch service line and meter "At Cost". Since the Company may at times install meters on existing service lines, it would be appropriate for some customers to only be charged for the meter installation. Therefore, separate service line and meter charges have been developed by Staff. Staff recommends that the charges labeled "Staff's Recommendation" in Table D be adopted.

Table D
Service Line and Meter Installation Charges

	Company	Company Company		Staff's Recommendation		
Meter Size	Current Tariff <sup>6</sup>		Service Line Charge	Meter Charge	Total Charge	
5/8" x 3/4" Turbine	\$365	\$1,160	\$445	\$155	\$600	
¾" Turbine	\$405	\$1,205	\$445	\$255	\$700	
1" Turbine	\$455	\$1,390	\$495	\$315	\$810	
1-1/2" Turbine	\$665	\$2,175	\$550	\$525	\$1,075	
2"- Turbine 2"- Compound	\$1,080 \$1,580	\$2,880 \$2,990	\$830 \$830	\$1,045 \$1,890	\$1,875 \$2,720	
3"- Turbine 3"- Compound	\$1,460 \$2,030	\$2,735 \$3,660	\$1,045 \$1,165	\$1,670 \$2,545	\$2,715 \$3,710	
4"- Turbine 4"- Compound	\$2,350 \$2,985	\$3,715 \$5,710	\$1,490 \$1,670	\$2,670 \$3,645	\$4,160 \$5,315	
6"-Turbine 6"-Compound	\$4,450 \$5,780	\$6,023 \$10,065	\$2,210 \$2,330	\$5,025 \$6,920	\$7,235 \$9,250	
8"-Turbine 8"-Compound	\$7,450 \$9,695	\$8,610 \$16,205	At Cost At Cost	At Cost At Cost	At Cost At Cost	

#### 2. Curtailment Plan Tariff

Staff has reviewed the curtailment tariff submitted by the Company with its Rate Application and has determined that this tariff generally conforms to the sample tariff found posted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Became effective on November 1, 1996

on the Commission's website. Staff recommends approval of the Company's curtailment tariff in this proceeding.

# 3. Backflow Prevention Tariff

The Company has an approved backflow prevention tariff.



## **Ehrenberg Improvement Association Water Department**

Docket No. W-02273A-08-0251

Test Year Ended: December 31, 2007

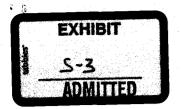
Schedule DRE-1

# THE STATE OF THE S

	Present Rates		Proposed Rates	
	Company	Staff	Company	Staff
	as	as	as	as
	Filed	Adjusted	Filed	Adjusted
Revenues:				
Metered Water Revenue	\$259,082	\$259,694	\$689,340	\$296,875
Unmetered Water Revenue	0	0	0	0
Other Water Revenues	2,255	2,255	2,255	2,695
		ani itotikalaa sa	\$0   20   20   20	
Total Operating Revenue	\$261,337	\$261,949	\$691,595	\$299,570
Operating Expenses:				
Operation and Maintenance	\$204,191	\$216,962	\$204,191	\$216,962
Depreciation	63,192	13,844	63,192	13,844
Property & Other Taxes	20,752	13,849	20,752	13,849
Income Tax	0	0	0	0
			Hard Silver Miles	
Total Operating Expense	\$288,135	\$244,655	\$288,135	\$244,655
Operation Income//Leas	(#26.708)	110	£402 460	\$54,915
Operating Income/(Loss)	(\$26,798)	\$17,295	\$403,460	970,2110
Rate Base O.C.L.D.	\$836,997	\$317,489	\$836,997	\$317,489
Times Interest Earned Ratio (Pre-Tax)	N/M	0.84	19.65	2.67
Debt Service Coverage Ratio (Pre-Tax)	1.62	0.72	22.73	1.58
Operating Margin	N/M	6.60%	58.34%	18.33%

NOTE:

Operating Margin represents the proportion of funds available to pay interest and other below the line or non-ratemaking expenses



# **Arizona Department of Environmental Quality**

Drinking Water Monitoring and Protection Unit Mail Code 5415B-2 1110 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007

**Drinking Water Compliance Status Report** 

System Name	System Type	Is system consecutive?			
EHRENBERG IMPROVEMENT ASSOC	Community	Yes,			
System ID #	Non-transient Non-community	to PWS#			
15497	Transient Non-community	⊠ No			
Overall compliance status	No major deficiencies	Major deficiencies			
Monitoring and Reporting status		Major deficiencies			
Comments: None					
Operation and Maintenance status	No major deficiencies	Major deficiencies			
Date of last Sanitary Survey 10-10-0					
Major unresolved/ongoing operation and					
		late storage			
unable to maintain 20		water treatment rule			
cross connection/bacl					
treatment deficiencies		<i>,</i> C			
certified operator	other =				
Comments: None					
Comments. None					
		Yes No			
Is an ADEQ administrative order in effe	ect?	☐ Yes   ⊠ No			
Comments: None					
	ystem Information				
Population Served		1650			
Service Connections		343			
Number of Entry Points to the Distribution	n System	<u> </u>			
Number of Sources		§ 1 ·			
Initial Monitoring Year		1993			
Monitoring Assistance Program (MAP) S	ystem				
	6 18				
Evaluation completed by Donna Calderon, Manager					
	ater Monitoring and Protection Unit				
Phone 602-771-46	Date	June 12, 2009			
Based upon data submitted by the water system, ADEQ has determined that this system is					
currently delivering water that meet	s water quality standards required t	by 40 CFR 141/Arizona			
Administrative Code, Title 18, Chapter 4, and PWS is in compliance.					
☐ Based upon the monitoring and reporting deficiencies noted above, ADEQ cannot determine if					
this system is currently delivering water that meets water quality standards required by 40 CFR					
141/Arizona Administrative Code, Title 18, Chapter 4, and/or PWS is not in compliance.					
Based upon the operation and maintenance deficiencies noted above, ADEQ cannot determine if					
this system is currently delivering water that meets water quality standards required by 40 CFR					
141/Arizona Administrative Code, Title 18, Chapter 4, and/or PWS is not in compliance.					

This compliance status report does not guarantee the water quality for this system in the future, and does not reflect the status of any other water system owned by this utility company.

#### Katrin Stukov

From:

Donna M. Lucchese [Lucchese.Donna@azdeq.gov]

Sent:

Friday, June 12, 2009 2:17 PM

To:

Katrin Stukov

Subject:

FW: Ehrenberg PWS#15-497

Attachments: 15497 CSR 6-12-09.pdf

Katrin,

Here is the other one you requested.

Donna Calderon, Manager
Drinking Water Monitoring and Protection Unit
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
1110 West Washington Street, Mail Code 5415B-2
Phoenix, AZ 85007

602-771-4641 (direct line) 602-771-4634 (fax) e-mail: dml@azdeq.gov

ADEQ website: www.azdeq.gov



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

From: Katrin Stukov [mailto:KStukov@azcc.gov]

Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2009 8:52 AM

To: Donna M. Lucchese

Subject: Ehrenberg PWS#15-497

Hi Donna,

I will have to file my Ehrenberg Report in a few days. Could you please provide an updated CR for this system?

Thank you,
Katrin Stukov
Utilities Engineer - Water/Wastewater
Utilities Division
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W.Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Phone: (602) 542-0941 Email: kstukov@azcc.gov Fax: (602) 542-0766